Patent claims

1. Method for definition of structures of object and/or data
models (OM) in which schemata (XS1, XS2) describe the
structures, with a version of the relevant schema (XS1, XS2)
5   being labeled in a first attribute (10, 20) of a schema (XS1,
XS2), with the namespace (1) used in the relevant schema and
the type and element name (11a.. 14a, 21a, 24a) used in the
relevant schema (XS1, XS2) being preserved independent of the
version, with types and elements (11..14., 21...24) only being
10   expanded while preserving the type or element name (11a.. 14a,
21a, 24a) and with unexpanded types and elements (21..24)
being accepted unchanged into schemata (XS2) of a newer
version from the types and elements (11..14) used in schemata
(XS1) of an older version.

15   2. Method according to Claim 1,
c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
a calendar date can be assigned via a second attribute (D1,
D2) to a version of a schema (XS1, XS2).

3. Method in accordance with Claim 1 or 2,
20   c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   t h a t
the schemata (XS1, XS2) are described by an extensible markup
language.

4. System for definition of structures of object and/or data
models (OM), with at least one schema (XS1, XS2) for
25   description of the structures, with a first attribute (10, 20)
of a schema (XS1, XS2) being provided for identification of a
version of the relevant schema (XS1, XS2), with the namespace
(1) used in the relevant schema (XS1, XS2) and the type and
element names (11a..14a, 21a..24a) used in the relevant schema

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(XS1, XS2) being preserved regardless of the version, with a
mechanism being provided for expansion of the types and
elements (11..14, 21..24) while preserving the type or element
name (11a..14a, 21a..24a) and for unchanged acceptance of
unexpanded types or elements (11..14, 21..24) used in schemas
(XS1) of an older version into a schemas (XS2) of a newer
version.

5. System in accordance with Claim 4,
characterized in that
a calendar date is assigned via a second attribute (D1, D2) to
a version of a schema (XS1, XS2).

6. System in accordance with Claim 4 or 5,
characterized in that
the schemata (XS1, XS2) are described by an extensible markup
language.